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Urban District of Brixham



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SANITARY INSPECTOR

1940

CS660AD
BRIXHAM.



Urban District of Brixham



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Urban District of Brixham

Chairman of the Council :

COUNCILLOR C. M. ASHFORD, J.P.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE :

Chairman : COUNCILLOR S. J. PENNY

ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

HOUSING COMMITTEE :

Chairman : COUNCILLOR S. W. BANKS

ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council :

SANDERS LEAR

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF :

Medical Officer of Health and Medical Officer for
Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, and
Port Medical Officer :

††ANDREW DICK, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health
and Port Medical Officer :

*†L. INGRAM DUNCAN, M.B., Ch.B.


Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Meat and Foods,
Port Health Inspector, Housing Officer, and
Inspector under the Petroleum and Explosives Acts :

††FRANCIS LAWRENCE GODFREY,
A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

*Part time.

†Whole time.

†Salary contribution by Exchequer Grants.



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REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR

THE URBAN DISTRICT OF BRIXHAM

FOR 1940.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for 1940. In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, the report is restricted to essential statistics.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of District	...	...	...	5,626 acres
Population, 1931 Census	...	...	...	8,147
„ Estimated to middle of 1940	...	...	...	8,795
Number of Inhabited Houses, 1940 (approx.)	...	...	...	2,520
Rateable Value of District—				
Inside Harbour Area	...	...	...	£45,601
Outside „ „	...	...	...	£3,390
			Total	£48,991

VITAL STATISTICS, 1940.

LIVE BIRTHS.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate ...	39	55	94
Illegitimate	1	3	4

40	58	98
----	----	----

Rate per 1,000 of the
estimated resident
population ... 10.8

STILL BIRTHS.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate ...	5	3	8
Illegitimate	—	—	—

5	3	8
---	---	---

Rate per 1,000, total
live and still births
... .. 84.2

DEATHS.

Male.	Female.	Total.	
71	67	138	Death rate per 1,000 of the esti- mated resident population ... 15.06

Death Rate for Brixham (as compared
with England and Wales) ... 11.74

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—

	Male.	Female.	Total.	
Legitimate ...	5	—	5	Rate per 1,000 of the live & still births, 66.03
Illegitimate	—	2	2	

Deaths from Puerperal Causes—

Puerperal Sepsis	—	Rate per 1,000 live and still births ... —
Other Puerperal Causes		—	

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1940 (As supplied by Registrar General)

Disease	Male	Female	Total
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever ...			
Measles		1	1
Scarlet Fever			
Whooping Cough			
Diphtheria			
Influenza	3	3	6
Enceph Lethargica			
Cerebro Spinal Fever			
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	3	1	4
Other Tuberculosis	1		1
Syphilis		1	1
Cancer	11	6	17
Diabetes	2	3	5
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	8	6	14
Heart Disease	9	11	20
Other Circulatory Diseases	1	2	3
Bronchitis	7	2	9
Pneumonia (all forms)	6	3	9
Other Respiratory Diseases		1	1
Peptic Ulcer	1		1
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)			
Appendicitis	1		1
Other digestive diseases		2	2
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	1	2	3
Puerperal Sepsis			
Other Puerperal Diseases			
Congenital debility, Premature birth, etc.	3	2	5
Senility			
Suicide			
Other Violence	3	2	5
All Other Causes	10	19	29
Diarrhœa (over 2 years)			
Special Causes			
(Included in No. 35 above)			
Smallpox			
Polio-myelitis			
Polioencephalitis	1		1
Total All Causes	71	67	138

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Pneumonia	...	...	...	13
Erysipelas	...	...	...	10
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	34
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	1
Puerperal Fever	...	..	...	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	2
Dysentery (Sonne Bacillus)	...	...	...	—
Undulant Fever	...	...	...	1

Admitted to Isolation Hospital—

Scarlet Fever ... 1 case.

Diphtheria ... 26 „

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0								
1								
5								
15	1	1	1	1			1	
25	1	1			1	1		
35	3							
45		3						
55	1				1			
65 and upward					1			
Totals	6	5	1	1	3	1	1	

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year ending 31st December, 1940.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I herewith present my Fifteenth Annual Report, which, as required by the Ministry of Health, is confined to statistics only.

Yours faithfully,

F. L. GODFREY,

Sanitary Inspector and
Inspector of Meat and Foods.

HOUSING, 1940.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including number given separate under "b") :

I. By Local Authority	...	...	0
II. By other Local Authorities	...	...	0
III. By other bodies or persons	...	...	0

(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :

I. By the Local Authority	...	...	0
(a) For the purpose of Part II of the Housing Act, 1925	...	...	0
(b) For the purpose of Part III of the Housing Act, 1925	...	...	0
(c) For other purposes	...	...	0
II. By other bodies	...	...	0

HOUSING STATISTICS, 1940.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

1 (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	39
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	0
2 (a) Number of dwelling-houses (including under sub-head 1 above, which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, and 1932)	17
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	29
3 Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	0
4 Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	4
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	21
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.	
(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
1 Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	5
2 Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	5
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
1 Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	17
2 Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	17
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

1	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	0
2	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	6

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

1	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	0
2	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement of room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	...	0

4. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV (Overcrowding).

(a)	1.	Number of Dwellings overcrowded at end of year	...	...	...	...	...	0
	2.	Number of Families dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	...	0
	3.	Number of Persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	...	0
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year	...	...	...	...	...	0
(c)	1.	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year	...	...	...	...	...	0
	2.	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	...	0
(d)		Particulars of cases in which Dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding.	...	...	...	...	...	0
(e)		Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider desirable to report.	...	...	...	...	...	0

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

*and Work of the Public Health Department,
1940.*

HOUSING.

Number of dwelling-houses completed during year 1940 :—

Detached Houses	...	...	...	...	2
Terrace Houses	...	...	...	...	3
Bungalows	...	...	...	...	1

Total number of dwelling-houses completed during year 1940	6
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Number of houses built during the year for working
classes :—

By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	0
By Private Effort (i.e., houses of £450 and under, inclusive of cost)	...	...	...	...	0

Number of new houses or flats required for working
class ...

Houses inspected	...	...	...	...	39
Cases of overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	0
Defective houses repaired	...	...	...	...	31
„ floors repaired	...	...	...	...	2
„ roofs repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	7
„ yards paved	...	...	...	...	2
„ external plastering repaired	...	...	...	...	4
„ internal plastering repaired	...	...	...	...	12
„ windows repaired	...	...	...	...	9
„ stoves repaired	...	...	...	...	5
„ coppers repaired	...	...	...	...	—

Number of houses dealt with under Housing (Rural
Workers) Act, 1926 :

During year	...	...	...	...	0
Total to date	...	...	...	...	23

DRAINS AND DRAINAGE.

Sewers re-laid during the year :—

Station Hill, 24 yards, 6-in.

Higher Street, 110 yards, 9-in.

Drains tested	...	...	...	...	47
Defective drains repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	16
Certificates issued in respect of drainage of new buildings	...	...	...	...	6
Certificates issued in respect of drainage of existing buildings	...	...	...	...	14
Existing w.c.s fitted with flushing cisterns, or cisterns renewed	...	...	...	...	4
Defective traps removed or replaced with approved stoneware gully traps	...	...	...	...	17
Defective w.c.s repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Automatic cisterns fixed	...	...	...	...	1

The following sanitary fittings have been installed during the year :—

New baths	...	...	...	...	10
W.C.s	...	...	...	...	28
Lavatory basins	...	...	...	...	14
Urinals	...	...	...	...	1
Scullery sinks	...	...	...	...	10
Interceptors	...	...	...	...	9
Septic tanks	...	...	...	...	1
Chemical closets	...	...	...	...	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION.

Rooms fumigated	...	...	...	...	59
Articles of clothing and bedding disinfected	...	...	...	...	128
Articles of clothing and bedding destroyed	...	...	...	...	29
Rooms disinfected for notifiable infectious disease	...	...	...	...	26
„ „ „ tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	7
„ „ „ verminous condition	...	...	...	...	32
Cases removed to Isolation Hospital	...	...	...	...	26

MILK AND DAIRIES.

Number of cow-keepers and dairymen registered at end of year :—

Producer Wholesalers	...	...	...	...	5
Producer Retailers	...	...	...	...	19
Producer Wholesalers and Retailers	...	...	...	...	2
Retailers	...	...	...	...	14
Number removed from register	...	...	...	...	—
Number of cowsheds in district	...	...	...	...	42
„ „ without impervious floors	...	...	...	...	3
„ „ with unsatisfactory drainage	...	...	...	...	2
„ „ „ „ ventilation	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ „ „ lighting	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ „ „ water supply	...	...	...	...	—
Number of visits to dairies, cowsheds, farms, etc.	...	...	...	...	27
Number of samples of milk taken for examination :—					
For cleanliness	...	...	...	...	19
For tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	12
For adulteration (taken by County Police)	...	...	...	...	7

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

(Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924)

Number of butchers' shops in the district	...	...	...	8
Other food shops and stores	...	...	...	87
Number of visits to butchers' shops	...	...	...	49
„ „ other food shops and stores	...	...	...	128

Inspection of Meat and Foods.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle (exclud- ing cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Totals
Number Killed ...	27	3	2	78	60	170
Number Inspected ...	20	3	2	67	52	144
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis</i>						
Whole carcasses con- demned						
Carcases of which part or organ was condemned		1				
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis...						
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i>						
Whole carcass con- demned						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...		1			4	
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis...		33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %			7%	

Slaughtering in District (except for casualties) ceased January 1940, (M.O.F. Order).

WEIGHT OF UNFIT FOOD DESTROYED.

	Tuberculosis	Other Diseases and Conditions	Total Lbs.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	
Beef	260	28	288
Mutton		7	7
Pork	56	44	100
Offals		122	122
Total	316	201	517

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

Number of slaughter-houses in district :—

Registered	}	Not ... ..	...	...	...	...	3
Licensed		in ... ..	...	...	...	...	2
Public		use ... ..	...	...	...	...	0

Number of visits to slaughter-houses

Number of visits to premises where emergency or
occasional slaughtering is carried out 9

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Number of noxious or offensive trades in district ... 0

NUISANCES.

Complaints of nuisances received 39

Informal notices served 11

Statutory notices served 0

Nuisances abated without written notice 14

SCHOOLS.

Number of schools in district :—

Public 5

Private 4

Number of schools found defective 0

,, ,, notices to managers 0

,, ,, visits to schools 12

BAKEHOUSES.

Number of bakehouses in district 10

,, ,, inspections 14

,, found defective 0

,, of notices to remedy 0

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901
AND FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

Number of factories and workshops registered in district 63

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (4)
Factories with mechanical power ... 19	25		
Factories without mechanical power 36	41	2	
* Other Premises under the Act (including works of building & engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises) ... 8	9	1	
Total 68	75	3	

*Electrical stations should be reckoned as factories.

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of offences in respect to which prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1) ...	2	2		
Overcrowding (S. 2)				
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)				
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	1	1		
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)				
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)—				
Insufficient	1	1		
Unsuitable or defective ...	2	2		
Not separate for sexes ...				
Other offences				
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Section mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)				
Total	6	6		

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

- | | | | |
|-----|-----|---|---|
| (1) | (a) | Number of Council houses found to be infested | 1 |
| | " | " " " disinfected | 1 |
| | (b) | Number of other houses found to be infested | 3 |
| | " | " " " disinfected | 0 |
- (2) Spraying with approved insecticide after removing wallpaper, skirting, etc.
 - (3) No action is taken before the removal of tenant's belongings, except inspection by the Sanitary Inspector.
 - (4) Work of disinfection is carried out by the Public Health Department.
 - (5) Tenants are advised by the Sanitary Inspector as to measures to prevent re-infestation after cleansing.

PETROLEUM AND EXPLOSIVES ACTS.

PARTICULARS OF REGISTRATION.

Number of Licenses granted to store	Petroleum Spirit	21
" " "	Carbide of Calcium	1
" " "	Mixed Explosives	5
" " "	Gunpowder and	
	Mixed Explosives in Magazines	2

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

Leaflets on Rat Distruction and some 600 baits were issued to farms, food stores, etc., throughout the year, and quite a number of rats were accounted for by this effort.

PORT HEALTH DISTRICT OF BRIXHAM.

REPORT

For Year ending 31st December, 1940.

Regular inspections are made of the local boats, also visiting ships are examined by the Customs, and inspected by the Port Medical and Health Officer as a routine matter.

No action has been necessary in respect of infectious disease, and the facilities available for treatment, etc., are the same as outlined in my last report.

Yours faithfully,

F. L. GODFREY,

Port Health Inspector.
